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8 MAY 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Secretary Brown,  
5 May 1978

The Secretary said he was answering a 1 February letter from Chairman Boland about security compartmentation and he wanted me to at least see their response which is in considerable detail as to the number of compartments and what their purposes are. They are going to send it up only if they get agreement that Latimer and Boland are the only two who read it since it gives so much away in the process. They said we apparently had an identical or similar letter which I had already answered. He showed me a copy of our answer and, after reading the first paragraph, I told him I had never signed it. We looked at it and it did not show either a date or signature. Our people should be more careful in handing out draft letters to make them draft or make sure that people don't think they are already signed. I had never seen this one. They gave me copies of their reply as well as the incoming letter. We should look at this quickly (it's due in next week) and ensure that if there is any real problem with the Defense position we get back to them not later than Monday, and even that may be too late. I'd also like to see their reply when I take up our own.

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Director

E2 IMPDET  
CL BY DCI

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